



The Transition Center at FSI

Overseas Briefing Center

2013 KIDVID CONTEST: Rules of the Contest

The Foreign Service Institute (FSI) and the Foreign Service Youth Foundation (FSYF) are co-sponsors of the eighteenth annual worldwide KIDVID Contest. Contestants submit an original DVD that depicts life for Foreign Service youth at your post. This contest is open to children between the ages of 10 - 18. Winners will be awarded cash prizes and are invited to attend the annual FSYF Youth Award Ceremony held in the summer. The contest is administered by the Overseas Briefing Center, a division of FSI's Transition Center.

Foreign Service children and their parents come to the OBC and/or use its online resources to research assignments and often want to see what life will be like for them at post. One of OBC's most popular resources is its collection of post audiovisuals, which depict the housing, schooling, recreational facilities, community, and city life. KidVids, which are a part of the overall collection, communicate and highlight these same aspects from the viewpoint of the younger members of the Foreign Service Community.

Content and technical guidelines follow; contest rules can be disseminated directly to potential contestants.

What would be of most interest to children and teens whose parents have been assigned to your post? Examples should include:

City

- Typical points of entry for new arrivals
- Major sights
- View of the city from a high point
- Local neighborhoods and shopping areas that you use
- Typical landscape, different animals (if applicable)

Housing

- View of a typical bedroom for different age groups
- Backyard or play areas for kids
- Exterior and interior housing views (at least a couple of examples from different embassy neighborhoods, especially if housing differs considerably at various locations)

School

- View of school buildings, playgrounds, and sports fields
- Classrooms, library, computer room, chemistry lab or other rooms of particular interest
- School activities in progress (if at all possible), including students and teachers
- Special equipment in use
- Sports teams and facilities

Shopping

- Where does your family buy groceries every week?
- Are there good places to shop for clothes?
- Favorite shopping areas where you go with your family or can go to by yourself

Community Life

- What kind of recreational activities do you have at your post? (i.e. pool, American Club, beaches, horseback riding, etc.)
- How do you celebrate American holidays at post?
- What are the favorite restaurants in the city? Do you have fast food restaurants like those in the United States?
- What are the biggest tourist attractions at your post?

Contest Rules for Video Production

- a) Eligibility: Family members (ages 10-18) of USG direct-hire and contract employees who are assigned to the US Mission.
- b) Contest procedures: It is requested that the Management Counselor or Community Liaison Office Coordinator advertise the contest at post. A camera-ready advertisement and a set of rules are available on the OBC OpenNet at <http://fsi.state.gov/rd.asp?ID=78> . OBC also offers an Internet link for a fun-filled Prezi presentation that provides useful contest details and an interview with a previous KidVid winner. See <http://goo.gl/OdEee>.
- c) All posts are welcome to submit nominations. Previous winners may enter again. Boarding school students spending the holidays with parents at post are welcome to participate in the contest.
- d) Entry must be submitted in a Mini-DV or DVD format that is compatible with U.S. standards.
- e) Before videotaping, be aware of any local restrictions on using a video camera in public. Americans who are videotaped need to be informed of the purpose of the DVD (see paragraph
- f) Entries will be judged on the basis of visual presentation, a useful narration throughout the video, audio clarity and volume consistency, video length and thorough coverage of content and a steady hand with the camcorder. See examples above.
- g) Music, graphics, and special effects may be used but are not required. We are not looking for professional quality productions; good home video quality is perfectly acceptable. Technical quality is not as important as content. A good product is one that gives a clear portrayal of a student's life at post.
- h) Ideal video length is between 15 and 30 minutes.
- i) We ask that adults provide minimal assistance in the video production.
- j) Multiple entries from different students at a post may be submitted to the contest.

- k) Group submissions are acceptable, but group winners will have their prize money divided accordingly.
- l) The Foreign Service Youth Foundation, through a generous donation from Peake Management, Inc, will award cash prizes to the top winners.
- m) All submissions become property of OBC and will not be returned to contestants. The DVDs will be kept in the OBC and other Foreign Service reference libraries for use by employees and their family members who will be moving to the post.
- n) Submissions must be accompanied by the following printed information from each student who participated in the production of the video:

Name
Parent Agency
Pouch Address
Telephone Number
Grade and Age
City and Country

- o) Contestants are asked to include a statement that they acknowledge, have read, and understand the contest rules and uses for their video submission.
- p) Send contest submissions through the Diplomatic Pouch to the following address:
KIDVID Contest
Overseas Briefing Center
Room E2126
Shultz Center
Department of State
Washington, DC 20522-4201
- q) Contest deadline: Submissions must be received in the Overseas Briefing Center by April 15, 2013. Contest winners will be announced by the end of May.

Please make the KidVid contest widely known at your post to maximize this opportunity for the young people of your community. Questions regarding the contest rules or guidelines can be directed to:

E-mail: FSIOBCInfoCenter@state.gov
Tel: 703.302.7277
FAX: 703.302.7452

For more information on other contests for Foreign Service youth, visit www.fsyf.org